

Retiree News

A Supplement to the Desert Airman

Friday, Jan. 31, 2003



A special thanks

Courtesy photo

Lt. Col. Joseph Whaley, former 355th Wing chief of staff, was the guest speaker at the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 549 Veteran's Day open house. Whaley addressed more than 200 veterans, their families and guests, and referred to the many contributions made to our country by our veterans. (Above) At the conclusion of his remarks,

Whaley (left) surprised Ed Gilpin (center), post member, by presenting him with three medals Gilpin earned while serving in the Navy during World War II but never received. Gilpin received the Purple Heart, Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal and the WWII Victory Medal. (Note: Since this event, we have been notified that Gilpin has passed away.)

Keeping ID cards up to date vital

Are you confused about TRICARE For Life and whether you need to update your military ID to use the program?

If you are a sponsor, age 65 or older, eligible for Medicare Parts A and B and have purchased Part B, you do not need to update your current ID card to receive health care under TFL, even if the medical eligibility status printed on the back of your ID card indicates "Civilian No."

Medicare Part B is required for TFL eligibility. If you have used TFL and have received a TRICARE explanation of benefits statement showing that TFL has paid your claims, you do not need to notify Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System that you have Medicare Part B. Your Medicare Part B information was picked up in a data match with Medicare. You only need to update changes in your residence, mailing address or family member status. If your Medicare Part B information is not correct in DEERS, visit customer service in Building 3200 with your Medicare and military ID.

Individuals not able to travel can call 228-4425 for instructions on renewing ID cards by

See **ID Card**, Page 3

Free 2002 tax preparation available at D-M

Free income tax assistance, preparation and electronic filing are available from the base Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Office Wednesday until April 15. This year, the first two weeks are reserved for active-duty members and their spouses.

The VITA office is staffed by trained volunteers and is a joint activity of the Davis-Monthan Retiree Activities Office and the 355th Wing Staff Judge Advocate.

Taxpayers should bring the following items when visiting the VITA office for tax preparation: Social

Security card or record of Social Security number; names and birth dates of taxpayer, spouse and dependents; the federal (and state, if applicable) tax package the individual received in the mail; Forms W-2, 1099-R and other statements of reportable income such as Form SSA-1099; all appropriate expense information (medical, home mortgage interest, real estate taxes, charitable contributions, child care expenses), information on rental property and investment sales, applicable powers of attorney; and a copy of the 2001 federal (and state) tax return. For direct deposit of refunds

a blank check or proof of bank routing number and account number is required.

To use the electronic filing system for a joint return, both spouses must be present to sign the IRS declaration form.

Taxpayers may get direct deposit refunds by filing their 2002 returns either electronically or using paper forms. The electronic filing system normally permits direct deposit to a taxpayer's bank account within two weeks. Direct deposit on mailed returns usually takes longer. The electronic filing system also allows those that owe

the government money and file in February or March to wait until, but no later than, April 15 to pay.

The VITA office has a limited supply of federal and Arizona tax forms and instructions. Individuals requiring forms from any other state should contact that state to get the appropriate forms. Most federal and state forms are now available on the Internet.

IRS forms and publications may also be ordered from the IRS by calling 1-800-TAX-FORMS (829-3676).

VITA is located in Building 4310, Room 109. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. Required appointments can be made by calling 228-3489.

Retiree Appreciation Day

Davis-Monthan Air Force Base hosts a Retiree Appreciation Day March 5. The main events are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Desert Oasis Enlisted Club. For more information on the Retiree Appreciation Day, or to sign up for the event, call 228-5100

Volunteers recognized

One hundred forty six Davis-Monthan retiree and family member volunteers are recognized for their work during 2002. (2001 tax year Volunteer Income Tax Assistance volunteers were recognized in the April 2002 newsletter.)

The efforts of the following listed individuals, who worked anywhere from a few to hundreds of hours, is greatly appreciated. The work was done at the Retiree Activities Office information desk, the visitor's center, the newsletter, retiree orientation, on the RAO executive board, in the pharmacies and other sections of the medical clinic.

If any person or agency was omitted, call the Retiree Activities Office at 228-5100.

Robert Ahern	Barbara Boyer
Arnalda Alwood	James Britt
Angie Anduaga	Everett Brown
Dino Areostatico	Martha Brown
Hyla Arnold	Jules Busker
Marilyn Ashby	Jason Butler
Skip Barkley	Don Campbell
William Bass	Roger Campbell
Gordon Beck	Mildred Chomas
Rosemary Beck	Katherine Clark
Donice Benedict	Keith Connolly
Richard Bennett	Robert Cook
Grace Block	Homer Cooley
Marilyn Bol	Ken Cousino
Charles Bollenberg	Janet Cox
	Margaret Croteau

Marlene Cullen
Charles Cummings
Shirley Degan
Robert DeQuintal
Armen Dermen
Georgiana Douglass
Barbara Douthitt
John Dunning
Bill Elliott
Mary Estrada
Duane Fair
Mary Fair
Lorraine Fischer
Abraham Fried
Kenneth Gareau
Rita Gengler
Frank Ginsbach
Jennie Giordano
Joseph Gonyeau
Warren Grossetta
Richard Grabowski
Maria Guerra
John Guldan
Augustine Gustilo
Doris Harwood
Pat Hemersback
Dean Hendrix
Bernard Henrie
Patricia Hetzel
Rita Hoemke
Red Hollander
Ruby Hooper
Elizabeth Hudson
John Huff
Melissa Hughes
Dale Hurst
William Hussman
James Hutchins
Helen Hutnik

James Hutchins
Oscar Imer
Faustino Jubera
Lawrence Jungers
Shirley Kappler
Chuck Klees
Clayton Klomp
Edward Kuhn
Joyce Lebda
Pat Light
Bill Love
Gail MacDonald
John MacInnes
June Mahl
Ted Marks
Dina Marshal
Pat May
Neil McAter
Roger McCreight
Frank McKenna
Ted Merry
Harold Moore
Annie Morris
Winthrop Nazro
Joy Newman
Mary Nielson
Bob Nottoli
Janet Pelland
Joseph Pelland
Pauline Pennock
Carl Petersen
Sylvia Phaneuf
Shirley Phillips
Alfred Quarto
Jo Reitan
Rudolph Ricciardi
Dennis Richards
Marlene Rosin
Anna Rueby

Carolee Ryan
Margaret Saito
Loretta Sampson
Sara Saunders
Lee Sawicki
Don Seedle
Clarke Selman
Suzanne Shafe
Patricia Shecter
Sandra Sherman
Staley Sipura
Charlotte Slanaker
Jim Slanaker
Marie Smith
Olive Smith
Joan Snow
Anita Southard
Robert Speer
Sybille Stanford
Joseph Steiner
Delma Stevens
Myles Stewart
Edward Stierman
Leone Sweedo
Joe Tannarome
Ray Teran
Ilse Thomas
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Henry Woehr
Bill Wood
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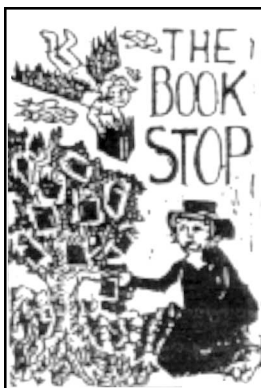
Protecting your DD Form 214

Historically, retiring military members have been advised to record their Department of Defense Form 214 at the county courthouse in order to keep it safely stored. With an increase in identity theft, authorities have reconsidered this advice.

A law, which is anticipated to pass in the Arizona State Legislature in 2003 will allow military members to pull their DD 214s from public record or blackout the personal information on the forms, said Capt. Matthew Cassell, 355th Wing Legal Office, in a Dec. 13 *Desert Airman* article. Those military retirees who have already filed their DD 214 downtown must wait until the bill becomes law to protect their personal information.

Retirees who haven't recorded their DD Form 214 should keep it in a safe place in their home or in a safety deposit box. Check on the status of the pending legislation by calling 1-800-352-8404, the Arizona State Legislature switchboard, or by contacting your Arizona legislative representative.

(Information for this article was taken from the Dec. 13 *Desert Airman* article "Public Records Make Service Members Vulnerable.")



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VA program assists homeless

The Southern Arizona Veteran's Administration Health Care System has an active assistance to the homeless program. While it is a year round program, cold weather clothing is especially requested. Needed are gently used or new men's clothing and underwear, blankets, hygiene items and sunscreen. Food items suitable for traveling (cereal bars, canned tuna, etc.), duffel bags, backpacks, tote bags and laundry bags are

also greatly appreciated.

If you can help with any of these items, or wish to make a cash donation, contact Suzanne Perkins or Toni Bravo at the VA, 629-1839, for assistance with delivery. You can also bring items to the Retiree Activities Office, 228-5100, or the Society of Military Widows Office, located in Building 4310 on Madera Street at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.

ID Card

Continued from Page 1

mail. To renew such cards, a pre-verified application form titled "Application for Uniformed Services Identification Card - DEERS Enrollment, DD Form 1172" must be obtained. If the sponsor is alive, they must sign the form in front of a notary public or other authorized verifying officer.

ID cards are current for four years, unless one turns 65 during the four-year period. Turning 65 is one reason your ID card's medical eligibility status will change. If you are age 65 or older and have recently updated your ID card, the medical eligibility status on the back of your ID card might show as "Civilian

Yes." This means you are eligible for TFL.

If you have no reason to update your ID card, your medical eligibility status might show as "Civilian No." You are not required to update your card to receive care under TFL. The medical eligibility status will be changed when the ID card is next updated.

To verify eligibility in DEERS, call the Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office at 1-800-538-9552, or 1-800-363-2883 for speech or hearing impaired, or visit customer service in Building 3200. For information about enrolling in Medicare Part B, call the Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213, or 1-800-325-0778 for speech or hearing impaired. (Some information came from the TRICARE Web site at <http://www.tricare.osd.mil>.)

Mailing supplement on hold

The Retiree News Supplement, published in the *Desert Airman* the last Friday of January, April, July and October, stopped being mailed in October. If alternate sources for funding the cost of postage are found, mailing will resume. In the meantime, the supplement will be available for pick-up at D-M.

Please inform the Retiree Activities Office, 228-5100, of any address changes so they can keep the address roster current.

Volunteers needed

The Retiree Activities Office is in need of volunteers, especially for the main gate visitor reception center. Volunteers with beginning skill on a computer are needed. Those interested can call the RAO, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 228-5100 or send an e-mail to retired@dm.af.mil and indicate interests and talents for volunteer duties.

Society of Military Widows

The Society of Military Widows, Chapter 14, will meet for lunch at the D-M officer's club Feb. 15, March 15 and April 19. Social hour begins at noon and is followed by lunch. Cost is \$8.50. For reservations, call Luise Bell one week prior to the meeting at 790-6775.

The society welcomes widows of service members of all ranks and services who died on active duty and in retirement. For more information, call Shirley Degan at 574-6020.

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New Book Brings Help and Confidence to Parents of Toddlers

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That's what author Bridget Barnes believes parents who use the techniques and skills explained in the new book, *Common Sense Parenting of Toddlers and Preschoolers*, can gain. Those skills have been taught to parents of 2 to 5 year-olds in workshops offered by Girls and Boys Town since 1996 and are now available to any parent through the book just published by Boys Town Press.

When a parent realizes that "I can correct my child, he or she may get upset with me, but the child is still going to love me," the parent gains confidence, according to Barnes. The book shows parents how to stay calm, communicate clearly, set boundaries, have reasonable expectations, give consistent consequences, and teach a young child self-control and other skills.

Parenting toddlers can be a time of high conflict. Many couples are just finding out that they have very different parenting styles — one may see the other as either too lenient or too strict, says Barnes. It may not be an exaggeration, she adds, to say that agreeing to use Common Sense Parenting® techniques "saves marriages. It can lead to a lot less strife."

Parents, according to Barnes, list many of the same problems

with their toddlers — acting up at bedtime and meals, throwing temper tantrums, refusing to take "no" for an answer, etc. In dealing with these issues, however, parents also make common mistakes — treating children like "little adults," giving kids choices they're not equipped to make, and setting expectations too high.

Young children, she says, need lots of reminders, assistance, modeling, and patience. The book provides step-by-step information on how to do these things. Also included are answers to dozens of questions frequently asked by parents of toddlers.

Barnes is the mother of two and stepmother of four children and has been a Common Sense Parenting trainer for 13 years.

Common Sense Parenting of Toddlers and Preschoolers is available from the Boys Town Press, 14100 Crawford St., Boys Town, NE 68010, 1-800-282-6657, www.girlsandboystown.org/btpres

Boys Town Press is the publishing division of Girls and Boys Town, the original Father Flanagan's Boys' Home.

For more tips on parenting, visit our Web site: www.parenting.org or call the Girls and Boys Town National Hotline, 1-800-448-3000.

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